House Engrossed Senate Bill

FILED KEN BENNETT SECRETARY OF STATE

State of Arizona Senate Fiftieth Legislature Second Regular Session 2012

SENATE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL 1008

A CONCURRENT MEMORIAL

URGING CONGRESS TO ENACT LEGISLATION EXEMPTING UNITED STATES MILITARY BASES FROM THE REGULATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS OF THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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To the Congress of the United States:

Your memorialist respectfully represents:

Whereas, the mission of the United States Department of Defense is "to provide the military forces needed to deter war and to protect the security of our country"; and

Whereas, according to the Department of Defense and the Government Accountability Office (GAO), a fundamental principle of military readiness is that the military must train as it intends to fight; and

Whereas, the Department of Defense has established military training facilities in Arizona, including Luke Air Force Base, Fort Huachuca and the Barry M. Goldwater range, among others, to accomplish this goal; and

Whereas, Department of Defense officials indicate that heightened focus on the application of environmental statutes has affected the use of its training areas; and

Whereas, compliance with environmental regulations, especially the Endangered Species Act (ESA), has caused some training activities to be canceled, postponed or modified; and

Whereas, compliance with environmental regulations, particularly the ESA, has forced military officials to make adjustments to training regimens, including requiring units in training to avoid areas with ESA restrictions;

Whereas, since 2003, the Department of Defense has obtained exemptions from three environmental laws and sought exemptions from three others; and

Whereas, these exemptions allow the military to maintain its high state of readiness and help to ensure its ability to meet unexpected threats; and

Whereas, these exemptions are under increased scrutiny by environmental groups and federal officials who would rather protect wildlife than allow the military to maintain its readiness; and

Whereas, a GAO report found no instances in which the Department of Defense's use of exemptions from the ESA or the Migratory Bird Treaty Act has adversely affected the environment; and

Whereas, the United States military has proven itself to be a responsible and effective steward of the land and environment.

Wherefore your memorialist, the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of Representatives concurring, prays:

- 1. That the United States Congress enact legislation exempting United States military bases and training facilities from the regulations and restrictions of the Endangered Species Act.
- 2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit a copy of this Memorial to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona.

PASSED BY THE HOUSE MARCH 22, 2012.

SENATE CONCURS IN HOUSE AMENDMENTS AND FINAL PASSAGE MARCH 26, 2012.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE MARCH 27, 2012.

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Passed the House March 22, 20/2,	Passed the Senate 4 Structure 38, 20 13
by the following vote: Ayes,	by the following vote:Ayes
	Nays Not Voting
Speaker of the House	President of the Senate
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Chies Clerk of the House	Secretary of the Senate

S.C.M. 1008

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE

This Bill w	as received by the S	ecretary of State
this	day of	, 20,
at	o'clock_	М.
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SENATE CONCURS IN HOUSE AMENDMENTS AND FINAL PASSAGE

Passed the Senate	Parol 24, 20/2
by the following vote:	/ <i>§</i> Ayes,
	Not Voting
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President of the Senate	;
Chamin	Billington
Secretary of the Senate	;

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE

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this <u>2</u>	7 ^{-th} day of	Mar	ch	, 20 1 2
at	8:20			M.
 	Secretary	Blun y of State		

S.C. M. 1008